

Newsletter

September
1999

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

Volume 46

Number 4

1999

A Note From the Administrator:

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
1515 E. 6th AVE.
HELENA, MONTANA 59620

Montana is following the trend of more emergencies and disasters. Fortunately, we have not had the loss of lives, but there has been major local property damage. The tornadoes in Opheim and Lewistown bring home the power of nature and our capabilities to respond. These incidents tested response systems, individual preparedness, insurance and the community's strength to come together. Both towns should feel very proud on how rapidly they dealt with the situation.

The recent tragic earthquake in Turkey illustrates a system overwhelmed. Whether it is earthquakes or tornadoes it would behoove all of us to examine what would happen to our community if we had a major event, with the consequences magnified many times with mass casualties and destruction of the infrastructure. We need to learn from other disasters and strive to improve our capabilities in all four phases of emergency management.



Damage from the tornado in Lewistown. This photo depicts what is left of a twenty-two foot travel trailer. The tornado carried it nearly thirty feet, destroying it in the process. A plate from inside the trailer was found in a house some eighty feet away.

Our hats are off to Greg Speers and Karen Marks for their great responses. Many other individuals and groups really made a difference. Unfortunately, there will be some families and small businesses that won't recover for a number of years. If you get a chance, talk to Greg and Karen and absorb what they have experienced and learned.

Photograph Provided By:
Great Falls Weather Service
Courtesy of Steve Knecht
& Jens Bolstad

Jim Greene
DES Administrator

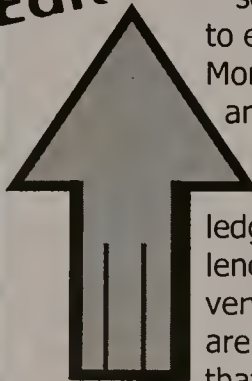


STATE OF MONTANA
DISASTER & EMERGENCY SERVICES



October is next month!! With each year, our designation of October as "Earthquake Preparedness Month" provides us with more opportunities to increase the awareness of risk in Montana and better prepare our citizens. This year will be our best effort yet! Look for our new fliers that will be coming out. They have some great information as well as some startling facts regarding earthquakes in Montana. In addition, we are currently disseminating bookmarks to every public school in Montana. They are flashy and full of information!

Editor Notes



Our ACE (Acknowledging County Excellence) Award has been very well-received and we are pleased to announce that Bill Silverman of the Missoula County Office of Emergency Management is our newest recipient. Bill's efforts are being highlighted by the State DES office for his ex-

ceptional work in Missoula County. Armed with a realistic Strategic Plan and devoted team members, Bill is making great progress in Missoula County. Super job, Bill!! And...thank you to DES District I for recognizing Bill's efforts and sharing them with us through your nomination.

If you would like to nominate anyone for their contributions to bettering emergency management, send in the information. We would love to recognize them for their outstanding accomplishments and share that information with our readers. Sharing information is sharing ideas, and both will make us better at what we do.

Finally, take a look at the article on Page 5. It is a thought-provoking contribution from Lynn Ogle of the Flathead County Sheriff's Office. Just when you thought we had figured it all out, here's another concern.

Until Next Time!
Monique T. Lay
Newsletter Editor

Although delayed, I thank Jim Anderson for his contribution to the June 1999 edition of our newsletter. He provided a great article regarding the Daniels County Disaster. Thanks!

Now - Thank you to the following for contributing to this newsletter:

Jim Greene, Marlys Cain, Fred Naeher, Homer Young, Bill Thomas (as usual, your photos are super), Jens Bolstad, Fred Cowie, Steve Knecht, Norm Parrent, Charlie Hanson, Lynn P. Ogle - Flathead County Sheriff/DES, Butch Weedon, and a nomination submitted by DES District I.



*Before you attempt to set things right,
Make sure you see things right.
Blaine N. Lee*



Missoula *Office of Emergency Management* County

Acknowledging County Excellence



As evidenced by the "Missoula County Strategic Plan" and the extensive article in the May 27 edition of the "Missoula Independent", Bill Silverman is continually and consistently working with his county to assure their best planning efforts and expertise are enforced. Through his outstanding dedication, Missoula County is very well-prepared for their next disaster. Bill serves as an exemplary model for the emergency management community and his efforts are valued and appreciated.

The State DES Office has awarded Bill Silverman, Missoula County Office of Emergency Management, an ACE (Acknowledging County Excellence) Certificate for his outstanding coordination and planning efforts in Missoula County.

Great Job, Bill!!

Is Missoula County Ready for a Disaster?

YES!!

Missoula County Strategic Plan

The comprehensive and long-range Strategic Plan is well-done and provides the elements critical to successful emergency management planning. It provides a background on the Disaster Planning Committee, an explanation of the service area, the process which was used to develop the plan, a mission statement, values of the committee, and the goals, objectives and critical tasks necessary to accomplish the requirements of their plan.

1999-2002

Continued on Page 4...

...Continued from Page 3

Taken from the *Missoula Independent* "Western Montana's Weekly Journal of People, Politics and Culture" - Volume 10, No. 21, May 27 - June 3, 1999

The following are some excerpts from the *Missoula Independent*. Although only a few highlights are provided, the article encompasses an in-depth view of Missoula County's many successful efforts.

Look at what is working well for them:

- The successful and well-defined Incident Command System structure within Missoula County
- **MARMOT**: the Missoula All-Risk Multi-agency Overhead Team, a crew of specially trained experts from different agencies who are ready to immediately step into incident command roles.
- The discussion of information on a "Need to Know" basis and a focus on the importance of communication during a disaster.
- The role of the North American Emergency Response Guidebook and its importance in emergency response. According to Missoula County's vulnerability analysis, hazardous materials incidents rank, by a large margin, number one in severity and threat.
- In recognition of the HazMat risk, Missoula city and rural fire departments put together a Regional Response Team capable of not only containing a HazMat spill, but also going in and cleaning it up.

Also noted in the article was some advice from the professionals, including:

- Focus on preparedness and training, it is critical to the success of your efforts.
- The role an individual plays during a disaster is the most important element of survival.

- And finally, the value of understanding the impacts of protecting your pet during a disaster.

Nominated by District I DES:

"...we in District I feel there is no one more deserving."

Bill's other achievements which have been recognized & nominated by representatives of District I:

- Member of the State DES Y2K Working Team.
- Local Y2K Representative to FEMA Region VIII.
- Convenes a well-represented Y2K Planning team, a Y2K Communications Group, and a Y2K Utility Group which meet regularly to discuss readiness capabilities throughout the county.
- Developed a Timeline for public information dissemination.
- Wrote Y2K Preparedness Plan based on Awareness, Identification, Assessment, Prioritization & Renovation, Testing and finally the Contingency Plan.
- Developed a Y2K Utility Fact Sheet/Brochure.
- Developed and implemented PIO News Releases.
- Currently planning a proactive effort to activate the Missoula County EOC from December 30 - January 3, 2000 to address Y2K issues that may arise.
- Continues to share a wealth of information with his counterparts within District I and statewide.

Bill Says...



"Our strength is our cooperation, there's a real sense of community here."

"...it's an ever-evolving world. The types of incidents we're going to be dealing with in the future are going to be a lot more complex than they have been in the past." Responding to the role of the Finance Officer: "That's one that people forget about that's really important because when you're responding to an incident you don't really think of the financial aspects of it. But in reality, when it's all said and done, that's where the biggest fights are."

Regarding MARMOT: "We don't get into the turf battles during and incident. We like to say, you leave your egos at the door."



"A Bomb in our Schools"

A Guest Editorial...

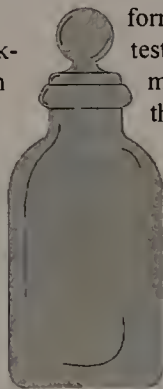
Where are your children today? Safe in school you say! You might be surprised to find that there is a potential danger lurking in our schools today. That danger may be in the form of the *School Chemistry Lab* or in the *Chemistry Lab Storeroom*. School officials may be reluctant to tell you anything about their chemical labs or respective storerooms.

A recent review of the *Chemistry Labs* in some of our schools revealed that there was a potential "bomb" in the chemistry lab storerooms. Many chemicals there are 25 years old or older. What are they used for? Who put them there? How long have they been there without being used?

Who checks the condition of the containers?

AND who is responsible to make the checks on the labeling and making sure the contents are what they are supposed to be?

These should be questions that are asked of the school administrators around the state. How many chemicals that were used in yesterday's chemical experiments are



needed today to perform the same tests? There may be synthetic chemicals

available that are safe for the same use and that may cost less. Isn't it time that we checked the school chemical storage lockers and got rid of those chemical "bombs" that are unnecessary?

It's time to act on this potential bomb that could be lurking in our schools. With the rash of violence in schools around the country, guns and knives are not the only problems. Our children are as curious today as we were in the past. Now they have the internet to do research and can come up with a lot more of the possibilities that can be concocted with the chemicals that may be hidden in the "*Chemical Store Room*."

"With the rash of violence in schools around the country, guns and knives are not the only problems."

-Lynn P. Ogle

Written By: Lynn P. Ogle, Chief Deputy
Flathead County Sheriff's Office
Deputy Director Office of Emergency Services

Have you discovered any interesting disaster trivia? Please send it in and we will share it with our readers. Thanks to Bill Thomas for finding this interesting tidbit. Makes you think!

In Pursuit of Trivia?

From Time Magazine, July 5, 1999 Edition

The amount of insurance money paid out in 1998 as a result of natural disasters worldwide totaled \$15 billion.

The total estimated cost of damage caused by such disasters in 1998 was \$93 billion.



Introducing the San Francisco Disaster Registry Program

The San Francisco Disaster Registry Program (DRP) for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities is part of a comprehensive regional strategy to provide disaster health services to vulnerable populations. The DRP, under the direction of the San Francisco Department of Public Health, does not depend upon traditional response agencies, such as police, fire, and paramedics. Rather, it uses "emergent" volunteers - people who come forward after a disaster and ask, "how can I help?"

Since traditional response agencies can be overwhelmed in a disaster, the DRP response model represents a practical solution that taps previously under-used resources. Experience from the Loma Prieta earthquake and similar events has shown that large numbers of such volunteers will be available and that they need to be included in any organized response effort.

In keeping with newer disaster planning models, the DRP addresses disaster-related needs of vulnerable populations throughout a cycle that includes mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery. In a collaboration between local, community-based organizations and government, the

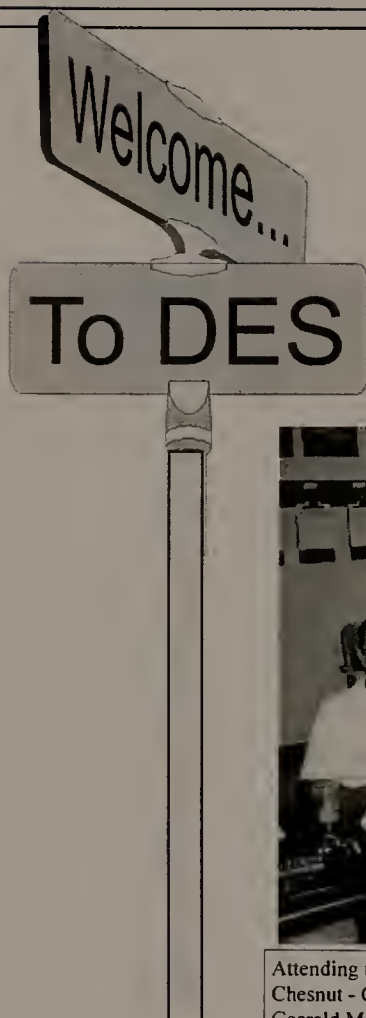
DRP coordinates a number of activities that seek to minimize disaster vulnerability, while at the same time maximizing effective response to the targeted populations. Some of these activities include:

- Developing training programs for residents of senior residential facilities; clients of community-based organizations (CBOs) and government agencies that serve the target populations; staff members of these organizations and agencies; and Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) graduates who elect to receive supplemental training on special needs populations.
- Broad community outreach to get the word out to isolated individuals - those who may need the DRP the most - about how they can become more "disaster resilient."
- Broadened collaboration in response planning among those who are or will be involved in disaster response to seniors and persons with disabilities. This includes field exercises such as the initial one held April 17th. That exercise included volunteers from the American Red Cross, the Auxiliary Communications Service, NERTs, and the Volunteer Center of San Francisco, who worked with the Department of Public Health, and the Mayor's Office of Emergency Services.

Provided by:
Western States Seismic Policy Council

"When written in Chinese, the word 'Crisis' is composed of two characters. One represents danger and the other represents opportunity."

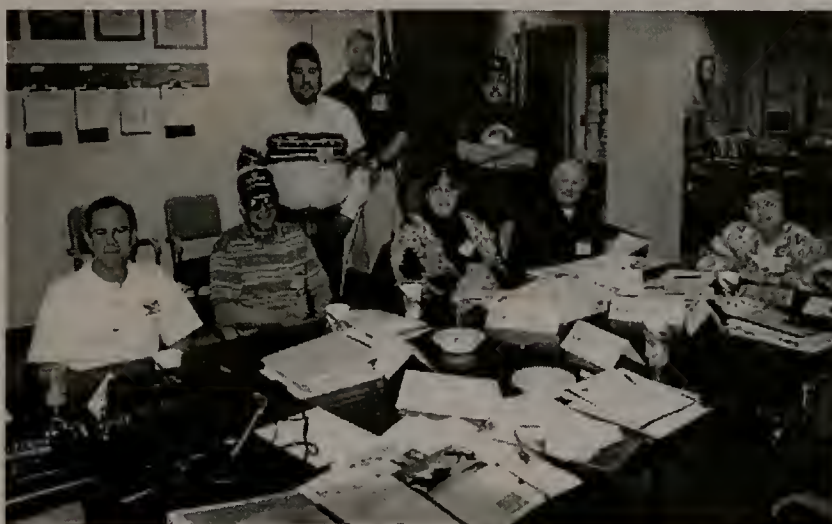
-John F. Kennedy



Photograph Provided By:
Bill Thomas
DES District I Rep

Say Hello

to the new faces at DES



Attending the New Coordinator's Orientation Course this past April are (left-to-right): Micheal Chesnut - Gallatin County, Mike Braach - Granite County, Butch Conway - Blackfeet Tribe, Gearald McComb - Rosebud County, Diane Grimm - Toole County, Bernie Ground - Blackfeet EMS, Ted Coffman - Madison County, and Yvonne Hunnewell - Liberty County.

Resource Centers on Safe Schools & Youth Violence

Center for Schools and Communities ----- www.center-school.org
 Center for the Prevention of School Violence ----- www.ncsu.edu/cpsv
 Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence ----- www.colorado.edu/scpv
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ----- www.cdc.gov/ncipc/dvp/dvp.htm
 Family Life Development Center ----- child.cornell.edu/fldc.home.html
 Institute for Violence Reduction ----- vm.uconn.edu/~wwwswk/violence.htm
 National Alliance for Safe Schools ----- www.safeschools.org
 National Association of School Psychologists ----- www.naspsweb.org
 National Funding Collaborative on Violence Prevention --- www.usakids.org/sites/nfcpv
 National School Safety and Security Services ----- schoolsecurity.org
 National School Safety Center ----- www.nsscl.org
 Safe and Drug Free School Program ----- www.ed.gov/pubs/AnnSchoolRep98/

October is... Earthquake Preparedness Month!!

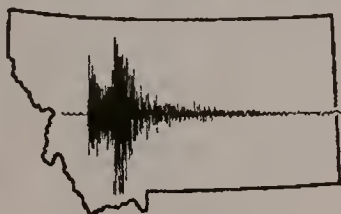
Earthquakes Rock

...But before they do

Know Your Risk!



We can help! If you would like information regarding your role in preparing for earthquakes, please contact your local DES Coordinator/ Emergency Manager or contact Monique Lay, DES Earthquake Program Manager at (406) 841-3963.



Montana is a beautiful state. But...the forces that create its beauty are the same forces that can rock your world. Earthquakes are caused by movement within the earth's crust. They are mystifying events and are as unpredictable as they are powerful - not even seismologists fully understand the forces that set them in motion. Although we can't prevent or predict them, we can prepare for them. Are you prepared? Take the opportunity to understand earthquakes and their effects. GET READY - GET PREPARED!!

Facts on Earthquakes in Montana:

Montana is the fourth most seismically active state in the U.S. trailing areas we typically associate with earthquakes: California, Alaska and Hawaii.

* Since 1896, 12 significant earthquakes (magnitude 6.0 or larger) have occurred in Montana. As a result we have suffered damaged & destroyed buildings, numerous injuries, and 28 deaths. Unfortunately, the costs have been high.

* A magnitude 6.1 earthquake would release the same amount of energy as the Hiroshima atomic bomb.

* In 1909, an earthquake with a range of estimates up to a magnitude 6.5, rocked Northeastern Montana near the Saskatchewan-North Dakota border.

* The 5.3 magnitude earthquake that occurred August 20, northwest of Lima was our largest earthquake since 1975. Another very interesting fact, the second largest earthquake of 1998 was a magnitude 4.5 and occurred in the perceived low-risk area of Roosevelt County. (A 4.7 quake shook near Libby making it the largest quake of 1998.)

* Approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of Montana's population reside in areas that have been identified as the highest risk for damaging earthquakes.

* Since 1869, Montana has experienced significant earthquakes in 1897, 1909, 1925, 1935, 1947, 1959, 1964 and 1975.

* Regarding earthquakes in the 20th Century, Montana has one of the highest per-capita death rates in the United States.

By far, earthquakes are the greatest single-event natural hazard Montana faces.

Montana Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program

Department of Military Affairs
Disaster and Emergency Services Division
www.state.mt.us/dma/des



District I Meeting

(...at the Dumas!)

Photograph Provided By:
Bill Thomas
DES District I Rep

On July 20, District I held its Summer Meeting in Butte. For those of you

who may not recognize this historic site, the attendees are gathered outside the infamous Dumas Brothel. Although it has not yet been confirmed, they also claimed to have taken the time to tour The Montana Power Company's Operations Center and the Earthquake Studies Lab at Montana Tech.

Pictured in the front row are: Wilma Puich - Silver Bow County, Jolene Jacobson - CSKT, John Allhands - Madison County, Peter Felsch - National Weather Service, Charlie Comer - Lincoln County, and Roy Nelson - the bus driver for the group. In the back: Martha Smith - Sanders County, Bill Silverman - Missoula County, House Madam, and Gordon Hendrick - Mayor of Superior. Not pictured is Bill Thomas - DES District I Representative. I have been assured that he was not detained during the tour but was, in fact, taking the picture!

Very Interesting Site...

http://www.seis.utah.edu/NEHRP_HTM/perseq.htm

Photographs, newspaper articles, and personal accounts of 48 historic earthquakes in Montana, Wyoming, Idaho (magnitude 5.5 and larger), and Utah (magnitude 5.0 and larger) have been compiled and used to increase public understanding of the earthquake threat in the Intermountain Seismic Belt.

The Montana Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program has received an "Award in Excellence" for Outreach to the General Public. The nationally recognized award will be presented by a Western States Seismic Policy Council (WSSPC) representative at the annual meeting on September 6 in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Expected Oregon Quake Studied

Cities could be hit harder than thought, researchers report

Published Friday, May 7, 1999, in the San Jose Mercury News

BY RICHARD L. HILL Newhouse News Service

SEATTLE -- New research indicates that a massive earthquake expected to strike the Pacific Northwest could occur much closer to large population centers than previously thought.

Scientists have warned for 15 years that a magnitude 8 or 9 earthquake could strike about 30 miles offshore, rocking the Oregon coast and causing huge tsunamis, or waves. But the new data, gathered from satellites by scientists at Oregon State University and three other institutions, shows the colossal quake could hit directly beneath the Oregon Coast Range just west of Oregon's Willamette Valley.

The onshore location would cause more severe damage to a larger area -- including the Willamette Valley cities of Portland, Salem and Eugene.

No one knows when such an earthquake might strike the Northwest, but the geologic evidence suggests such quakes occur about every 400 years, plus or minus 200 years. The last major earthquake on the Oregon coast -- believed to be a magnitude 9 -- occurred 300 years ago.

Oregon State University marine geologist Chris Goldfinger and his colleagues presented their findings this week in Seattle at the annual meeting of the Seismological Society of America.

The research team found that the locked portion of the Cascadia Subduction Zone -- where the eastward-moving Juan de Fuca Plate plunges under the western-moving North American Plate -- extends beneath the Coast Range to the western side of the Willamette Valley. The locked zone probably is wider than previously thought, although the new data gives less information about the width.

To come to this new conclusion, the scientists used global positioning system satellites to detect extremely small movements of the Earth's surface in

an area from the central Oregon coast into the central Willamette Valley. Two permanent GPS receivers in Newport and Corvallis, Ore., monitor movement full time, while other receivers were taken to several sites to measure yearly movement.

The researchers expected to find little movement because of the lack of earthquakes and previous data that showed little uplift in central-western Oregon, something commonly associated with a locked subduction fault.

Instead, they found that the ground is moving nearly half an inch a year toward the northeast. The rapid velocity worries earthquake researchers and indicates that the underlying plates are locking up rather than sliding by each other, resulting in incredible strain.

As the Juan de Fuca Plate presses forward to the northeast in the locked zone, it causes the piggy-backing North American Plate to bulge upward and inland toward the northeast. The pressure continues to build for years until an earthquake unleashes the stress in one powerful jerk, causing the bulge to collapse and forcing the area to drop instantly.

The half-inch of movement each year is imperceptible, but the accumulated pressure that has been stored since the last major earthquake in 1700 can be unleashed only in an earthquake.

"That means there's been 300 years of strain that will be released," said John L. Nabelek, a seismologist and OSU associate professor of oceanography who participated in the study. "And it's not just the proximity of the strain to larger cities that is a concern, but we've found that the surface area of the entire locked zone is much larger than previously thought. That means a larger quake."

P

ROVERBS FOR THE MILLENNIUM

1. Home is where you hang your @
2. The E-mail of the species is more deadly than the mail.
3. A journey of a thousand sites begins with a single click.
4. You can't teach a new mouse old clicks.
5. Great groups from little icons grow.
6. Speak softly and carry a cellular phone.
7. C:\ is the root of all directories.
8. Don't put all your hypes in one home page.
9. Pentium wise; pen and paper foolish.
10. The modem is the message.
11. Too many clicks spoil the browse.
12. The geek shall inherit the earth.
13. A chat has nine lives.
14. Don't byte off more than you can view.
15. Fax is stranger than fiction.
16. What boots up must come down.
17. Windows will never cease.
18. In Gates we trust [and our tender is legal].
19. Virtual reality is its own reward.
20. Modulation in all things.
21. A user and his leisure time are soon parted.
22. There's no place like <http://www.home.com>
23. Know what to expect before you connect.
24. Oh, what a tangled website we weave when first we practice.
25. Speed thrills.
26. Give a man [or for that matter anyone] a fish and you feed him for a day; teach him to use the Net and he won't bother you for weeks



Author Unknown
Contributed by:
Fred Naeher, Training Manager

Do you invest for your future?

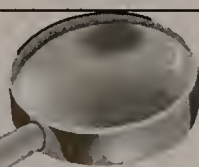
Consider this...

If you invested the equivalent of the cost of one soda per work day and received an 8% annual rate of return, you would have accumulated \$2,993 at the end of ten years!

Another example. If you skipped washing your car at the carwash just once a month, your annual 8% rate of return would provide you with \$1,842 at the end of ten years. Still not convinced. Okay, if you skipped eating lunch out once a week and invested that money instead, with the same annual rate of return you would have \$5,586 for your retirement, the purchase of a new home, or a college education.

Better yet, you could take a well-deserved vacation!





The following chemicals have been used to manufacture, in various combinations, illicit drugs. If you are encountering them in the course of your duties, you should be suspicious. Contact the appropriate authorities.

Benzyl Chloride
Benzaldehy
Phenylacetone
Chloroacetone
Phenylacetyl Chloride
Methylamine
Nitroethane
Thallium Nitrate
Hydriodic Acid
Cyclohexanone

Acetone
Bromobenzene
Piperdine
Pyridine
Pyrrolodine
Ethylimine
Toluene
Sulfonic Acid
Diethylamine
Magnesium -(pellets, ribbon, turnings)

O-Toluidine
Hydrochloric Acid
Sodium Hydroxide
Benzene Toluene
Hexane
Phosphorous (amorphous, red)
Methyl Ethyl Ketone
Methanol
Ether



Curious...

these are the top ten
deadliest tornadoes in the U.S.



Date	Location	Deaths
1. March 18, 1925	Tri-State (Missouri, Illinois, Indiana)	689
2. May 6, 1840	Natchez, Miss.	317
3. May 27, 1896	St. Louis, MO	255
4. April 5, 1936	Tulepo, Miss.	216
5. April 6, 1936	Gainesville, GA	203
6. April 9, 1947	Woodward, OK	181
7. April 24, 1908	Amite, LA - Purvis, Miss.	143
8. June 12, 1899	New Richmond, Wis.	117
9. June 8, 1953	Flint, Mich.	115
10. May 11, 1953	Waco, TX	114
10. May 18, 1902	Goliad, TX	114

Good Disaster Management

This is the fourth in a series of articles summarized from "Ten Criteria for Evaluating the Management of Community Disasters" by E.L. Quarantelli, co-director of the Disaster Research Center of the University of Delaware.

Principle 3

Mobilize personnel and resources in an effective manner

In most disasters, there is not an absence or lack of personnel and resources. Except occasionally for the need of some very specialized equipment, the materials and things that are needed are typically in, around or near the disaster site. In fact, in every disaster, sooner or later, more or less, even if there had been no planning, the personnel and resources that could be most appropriately used to deal with the crisis, appear on the scene (although in truly catastrophic occasions, the assistance will often come from outside the stricken community).

Sometimes there can be an overabundance of something not needed. For example, sometimes so many volunteers show up that they create another disaster management problem. Dealing with the potential volunteer problem requires very good planning of who will use them, where they will be sent, how they will be supervised, when they will be used and so on.

Good disaster management, therefore, does not so much involve mobilization of personnel and resources as it does their effective mobilization. For example, an evacuation might get a population out of an endangered area and be effective, but might not be very efficient if it involves use of unnecessary resources, takes too long to complete, or generates additional problems.

It is possible to judge effectiveness in a variety of ways including the following:

- Were the needed personnel and resources identified well in the crisis?
- Were they located quickly and brought to bear correctly?
- Were they appropriate for the crisis time problems?

Positive answers to such questions would suggest there had been not only a mobilization of needed personnel and resources, but an effective one.

Contributed By:
Bill Thomas
DES District I Rep



Nearly every household uses products containing hazardous materials. Although the risk of a chemical accident is slight, knowing how to handle these products and how to react during an emergency can reduce the risk of injury.

Contact authorities on hazardous household materials for information about potentially dangerous household products and their antidotes. Ask about the advisability of maintaining antidotes in your home for:

Cleaners and germicides
Deodorizers
Drain and bowl cleaners
Gases
Home medications
Laundry bleaches
Liquid fuels
Paint removers and thinners

Store household chemicals according to the instructions on the label. Read instructions on how to dispose of chemicals properly. Small amounts of the following products can be safely poured down the drain with plenty of water:

Antifreeze
Bathroom and glass cleaner
Bleach
Drain cleaner
Fertilizer
Household disinfectant
Laundry and dishwashing detergent
Rubbing alcohol
Rug & upholstery cleaner
Toilet bowl cleaner

Small amounts of the following products should be disposed by wrapping the container in newspaper and plastic and placing it in the trash:

brake fluid
Car wax or polish
Dish and laundry soap
Drain cleaner
Fertilizer
Furniture and floor polish
Insect repellent
Nail polish
Oven cleaner

Paint thinners and strippers
Pesticides
Powder cleansers
Toilet bowl cleaner
Water-based paint
Wood preservatives

Dispose of the following products at a recycling center or a collection site:

Kerosene
Motor or fuel oil
Car battery or battery acid
Diesel fuel
Transmission fluid
Large amounts of paint
Thinner or stripper
Power steering fluid
Turpentine
Gun cleaning solvents
Tires

Disposing of Medicines & Spray Cans:

Flush medicines that are no longer being used or that are out-dated down the toilet and place the empty container in the trash. Empty spray cans by pressing the button until nothing comes out and then place the cans in the trash. Do not place spray cans into a burning barrel, incinerator, or trash compactor because they may explode.

Keep fire extinguishers in home and car.

Post the number of the nearest poison control center by the telephone.

Learn to recognize the symptoms of toxic poisoning.

Difficulty in breathing
Irritation of the eyes, skin, throat, or respiratory tract
Changes in skin color
Headache or blurred vision

Dizziness

Clumsiness or lack of coordination

Cramps or diarrhea

If there is danger or a fire or explosion call the fire department after you get out.

Stay away from the house to avoid the possibility of breathing toxic fumes.



Wash hands, arms, or other parts of the body that may have been exposed to the chemical.

Eye Contact with a Hazardous Substance:

If a hazardous substance comes in contact with an eye, it is important to take immediate action. Delaying first aid can greatly increase the likelihood of injury. Flush the eye with clear, lukewarm water for a minimum of 15 minutes. Continue the cleansing process even if the victim indicates he or she no longer is feeling any pain, then seek medical attention.

Discard any clothing that may have been contaminated.

Administer first aid treatment to victims of chemical burns.

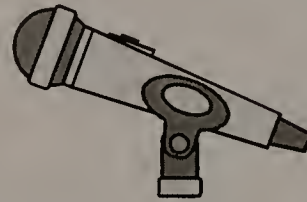
Call 9-1-1 for emergency
Remove clothing and jewelry from around the injury.
Pour clean, cool water over the burn for 15-30 minutes.
Loosely cover the burn with a sterile or clean dressing. Be sure that the dressing will not stick to the burn.

Refer victim to a medical professional for further treatment.



Tips for Communicating With the Media in a Crisis Situation

- Release the story...but control the flow of negative information responsibly.
- Keep your answers short and to the point - focus on answering the question that was asked!
- Bump the very negative questions, then run to the positive comment on the situation.
- Know your agency's policy - who has authority to talk to the media?
- Never give personal opinions!
- Be honest, be candid and beware!
- Make yourself accessible to reporters.
- Learn the needs of the media.
- Never mislead or lie.
- Never say "no comment."
- Don't argue with reporters - they always have the last word.



Remember - perception is truth, and the media can very well establish the public perception of your organization!

Submitted by:
Homer Young
Communications Specialist



What you need to know.

CRAMMING: Customers are charged for services they've never ordered or received. Review your phone bill carefully.

If there are any charges you don't understand, call the company whose phone number appears with the charges and demand an explanation.

CALL FORWARDING: Under the guise of claiming a prize or testing your line, you are asked to dial a two-digit code, followed by the * or # key and/or a toll-free number. Instead, however, you are actually programming your phone service to be forwarded to a long distance operator. Crooks can then authorize calls to be charged to your phone.

809 AREA CODE SCAM: Beware of any notices, advertisements, voice, pager or e-mail messages you may get that ask you to call any number beginning with an "809" area code. Emails may include statements threatening legal action unless the recipient calls for further information. Some claim to have urgent information on a family member or promise recipients a

prize. These calls are often billed at \$25 per minute. The 809 area code covers the Caribbean (billed at international rates).

UNEXPECTED INTERNATIONAL CALLING: Many international numbers look like domestic calls. Be cautious about area codes you don't recognize. If you're sure you won't need to make international calls, call Sprint and ask them to put an international block on your line. NOTE: A block on calls to "900" services will not stop calls to "011" or "809" numbers from someone in your household, so control access to your telephone.

800 CALLING NOT ALWAYS TOLL-FREE: Several customers have been billed for 800, 877, and 888 calls that are *not* toll-free. Be advised that these numbers can now have charges for calls similar to 900 calls, due to changes in telecommunications laws. Federal rules require that companies post a recording at the beginning of the call identifying them as such, but it is often a hurried one, and customers may miss this vital information.

Region VIII now has an online newsletter - check it out at:
<http://www.fema.gov/Reg-VIII/Newsltr/nl0602.htm>

e-mail Updates:

Northern Salish & Kootenai Tribes

Lloyd Jackson.....lloydj@cskt.org

FREE Mail List Cleaning on Net

MAILnet Services, a data processing company in Nashville, TN, is offering a free mail list cleaning service on the World Wide Web. The CASS standardization service is free for up to 50,000 records and can be accessed as often as needed. MAILnet also offers low-cost change-of-address and forwarding services. Interested mailers can check MAILnet's Web site at www.listcleanup.com.

COOL
SERVICE!

Contributed by:
Marlys Cain
Office Manager

The Earthquake Exhibit will be displayed September 15 through October 15 at Montana State University in the Earth Sciences Department. If you are in the area, take the opportunity to check it out. It is well worth the time.

During restoration of the Capital, please send correspondence to the Governor at the following address:

Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 200801
Helena, MT 59620

FYI: This November, CBS will air "Aftershock: Earthquake In New York," a fictional mini-series about the aftermath of a major quake that hits New York City.

DES Bulletin

Visit Our DES Web Site at
www.state.mt.us/dma/des

SEPTEMBER 23

1st Day of Fall

letter
nd!

ward!



HOLIDAYS!

September 6.....	Labor Day
September 20.....	Yom Kippur
September 23.....	First Day of Autumn
October 11.....	Columbus Day
October 31.....	Daylight Savings
Set clocks back 1 hour	
October 31.....	Halloween
November 2.....	Election Day
November 11.....	Veteran's Day
November 25.....	Thanksgiving

Check out the Y2K
links on our Web
Site!



New points of contact for the Northern
Cheyenne Reservation:
Herb White Dirt, NC TERC
P.O. Box 128
Lame Deer, MT 59043

Work Phone: (406) 477-8162
FAX: (406) 477-8162
24 Hour: (406) 447-6288

E-mail: ncfire@mcn.net

Alternate POC: Edward Joiner, Assistant Chief
Work: (406) 447-6416
Alternate POC: Michael Speelman, Captain

County Updates

DES District VI:

District VI Representative, Mark Gruener
Route 1, Box 1556
Lewistown, MT 59457

Jefferson County:

New Deputy Coordinator: Jim Pearson
Cellular: (406) 431-1324

Ravalli County:

New Coordinator: Bruce A. Hennell
205 Bedford Street, Box 5022
Hamilton, MT 59840
Business: (406) 375-6282
Fax: (406) 375-6353
Cellular: (406) 369-1694
email: hennell@cybernet1.com

Butte/Silver Bow

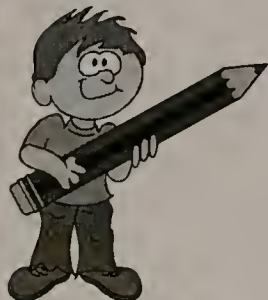
Wilma Puich
P.O. Box 4046
Butte, MT 59701
BUS: 497-6295 *
email: wpuich@yahoo.com *
24 hour: (406) 782-4224 x 600 *
Deputy: Brad Belke *
(406) 782-9777 or
(406) 782-4224 x 600 to page *
Fax: (406) 782-3838

* Denotes changes for Silver Bow Co.



Out & About

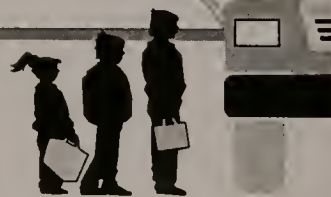
What's happening in Montana.



A Great Partnership!

Kate Stetzner, Superintendent of Butte School District #1 taught two courses at the University of Montana in June and July. One was titled "Violence Coming to Schools: Schools as Safe Havens" and the other was titled "Developing Site-Based School Safety Teams". The latter course included sections on selecting school safety team members, developing school crisis plans and establishing a school emergency operation team. Ms. Stetzner is a member of the U.S. Education and Justice departments' Justice Crisis in Schools Advisory Team.

Contributed By:
Bill Thomas
DES District I Rep



Building a Disaster Resistant Community

PROJECT IMPACT

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Lewis and Clark County is the latest to join FEMA's list of Project Impact Communities. With a focus of flood, wildland fire and earthquake mitigation, the expectations are high that this will be a very successful venture.

Good luck, Paul!



School Outreach

The new "Earthquakes Rock" bookmarks have been sent out to the schools. They address the "Drop, Cover & Hold Drill", mitigation ideas, and preparedness information. They are flashy and fun and enough were sent out to provide every student in the State of Montana with at least one. There are a few extras.

If you would like one, please call Monique Lay at (406) 841-3963.



GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENT!!

Charlie Hanson, DES District V Representative, recently received his Disaster Services and Human Resources (DSHR) Certification from the American Red Cross. This training, approved by his local chapter, provides him with expertise in the areas of setting up shelters and providing mass care during disaster situations. In addition, this card-carrying status places him on a national roster of resources utilized during disasters. Although a commendable accomplishment itself, Charlie intends to continue his training with the Red Cross to increase his level of expertise.

Winter Survival Training

Custer County is proud to announce the scheduling of a "Winter Wurvival" workshop to be held in Miles City, at the PARK PLACE, 20 North 8th, on September 22nd, 1999.

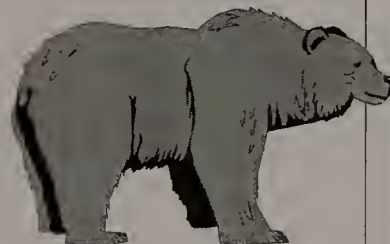
The featured speaker of this workshop will be "Papa Bear" Whitmore, a survival specialist who has trained, and aided training of organizations such as the Colorado Ski Patrol (in winter survival), and the U.S. Army (in desert survival), prior to Operation Desert Storm. He has instructed many other groups ranging from Boy Scouts and civilians, to law enforcement and EMS personnel.

Mr. Whitmore is the past president of "WISE" (Wilderness Institute of Survival Education), and even though he is retired, still trains groups in survival techniques.

In order to defray some of the costs of this workshop, there will be a \$15.00 per person charge, and **pre-registration is required**. Space is limited, registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration cancellation will be required no later than September 8, 1999. In the event of a "sold out" situation, registration fees will be returned.

If you are interested in attending this workshop, please send your check (payable to Custer County), along with the pre-registration form to:

Custer County Road Department
P.O. Box 1142
Miles City, Mt. 59301



(This newsletter has a pre-registration form enclosed. If you need another one or did not receive the enclosed copy, please call the state office at (406) 841-3911.)



The Effects of Wind Speed

Wind Speed (mph)	Effects Over Water	Effects Over Land
1-3	Ripples with appearance of fish scales.	Calm; smoke rises vertically
4-7	Small wavelets; crests of glassy appearance.	Smoke drift indicates wind direction; vanes don't move
8-12	Large wavelets; crests begin to break.	Wind felt on face; vanes begin to move.
13-18	Small waves; becoming longer; numerous whitecaps.	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion
19-24	Moderate waves; becoming longer; numerous whitecaps.	Dust, leaves and loose paper rise up.
25-31	Larger waves forming; whitecaps everywhere.	Small trees begin to sway.
32-38	Water heaps up; white foam begins blowing in streaks.	Large branches move, whistling from wires.
39-46	Moderately high waves of greater length.	Twigs and small branches broken off trees.
47-54	High waves begin to roll; spray may reduce visibility.	Slight structural damage occurs; slate blown from roofs.
55-63	Very high waves with overhanging crests.	Seldom experienced on land; trees broken, structural damage.
64-72	Exceptionally high waves; water covered with white foam.	Very rarely experienced on land; structural damage.
73 or higher	Air filled with foam, water white, little visibility.	Violent action, massive destruction.

Taken from the Animals in Disaster/Module A, Unit 10 FEMA Independent Study Course
Appendix E - Wind Speed Measurement - Land and Water Comparison

Make sure you are covered for any disaster by checking out the Insurance Information Institute's Web site. Located at <http://www.iii.org>, this informative site can give you a plethora of information on small business insurance via its Business link. This section covers everything from how to file a claim, to saving money, to insuring against a catastrophe. Separate links within the section provide some specifics on business interruption insurance and the National Flood Insurance Program.

HOT SPOT

...on the web

Disaster preparation guidelines are available through the fire link, which leads to materials for other natural disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, and hurricanes. Click on the insurance associations link to get connected with those within the industry. A directory of the Institute's members includes plenty of insurance companies. Directories are also provided for state, national, and international insurance associations.



<http://www.iii.org>

Other States... What's Happening?



In North Carolina - The Division's cooperative agreement with the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the U.S. Department of Agriculture establishes a joint plan to respond to a foreign animal disease (FAD) event. It is one of only a few such agreements in this country.

A FAD is an animal disease that is not currently present in the United States and is potentially deadly, highly contagious or highly transmittable disease that can strike livestock, and, in some cases, people.

Countries experiencing FAD events in the last few years have had to destroy hundreds of thousands of animals; lost billions of dollars in revenues; lost their ability to export the type of animal infected for 3-5 years; required mass evacuation of human populations; and, in two cases, lost a total of more than 65 lives from cross-infections.

GOVERNOR DECLARES A DISASTER FOR FERGUS COUNTY AND THE CITY OF LEWISTOWN



Above: Sheet metal torn from a building is wrapped around a traffic sign pole near the Yogo Inn.

The evening of August 14th brought a series of severe thunderstorms that slammed into central Montana. This system spawned several tornadoes that touched down sporadically throughout the area. The reports of baseball-sized hail and the accompanying downpours resulted in widespread damage; unfortunately, the City of Lewistown was hit particularly hard. As a result, the Governor signed a State Disaster Declaration to provide assistance with damage assessment and emergency response.

Official Report
State Emergency
Coordination Center

Karen Marks, Fergus County Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator was an integral part of the successful response efforts during the August 14th storm. Due to effective planning and an efficiently implemented response, the community of Lewistown has suffered relatively minor losses. Most importantly, no lives were lost as everyone was fortunate enough to have survived the disaster. Thank you to Fergus County for a job well-done!



Above: This fifty-foot pine tree was ripped from the ground and brought down a series of power lines when it fell to the street near 5th Avenue South and Pine.

Photographs Provided By:
Great Falls Weather Service
Courtesy of Steve Knecht
& Jens Bolstad

The Power of Nature

Below: The debris shown in the photo below was strewn about by the ferocity of the tornado. Ripped from the garage shown in the photo to the right, it was deposited in this yard.



Above: The attached garage was ripped from this home and completely destroyed.

Photographs Provided By:
Great Falls Weather Service
Courtesy of Steve Knecht
& Jens Bolstad

As this edition of our newsletter goes to print, a 5.3 magnitude earthquake has occurred approximately 20 miles northwest of Lima. This is the largest earthquake to have rocked the State of Montana in 25 years. At this time there are no reports of injuries and only very minor damages received by individuals located near the epicenter. Although a 5.3 would only be considered a moderate earthquake, reports of its effects were felt as far away as Billings and Great Falls.

Remember, this could have been "The Big One". Now is a perfect time to make your homes, schools, and businesses safe from the effects of earthquakes. Get your 72 hour kit together and learn and practice the "Drop, Cover & Hold Drill". Be prepared to survive!



Extensive damage was received by this grain elevator.

Do you have any great disaster photos? Send them in and they will be published in our newsletter. Provide a brief description of the incident and any relevant specifics.

GOVERNOR DECLARES A DISASTER FOR THE TOWN OF OPHEIM



Above: Buildings ravaged by the Opheim Tornado.

Photographs Provided By:
National Weather Service
in Glasgow

A state of disaster was declared by the Town of Opheim in Valley County due to considerable damage caused by a tornado on June 21, 1999. Fortunately, no injuries were reported and debris removal and restoration of services were a primary concern for local officials. The magnitude of the disaster exhausted the communities resources. The disaster declaration allowed officials to expend financial assistance from the general fund to meet contingencies and needs arising from the aftermath of the severe storms.

To the Right: The walls of the Homestead Cafe and Hotel in Opheim were ripped from the front of the building.



Official Report
State Emergency
Coordination Center

Photograph Provided By:
KLPZ Radio in Glasgow

GOVERNOR DECLARES EMERGENCY FOR EASTERN MONTANA

July, 1999 - Extremely dry conditions and high winds have combined to create hazardous fire conditions throughout the Eastern Montana Fire Zone. In defense, a state of emergency was declared for Eastern Montana by Governor Racicot. Executive Order 10-99 authorizes the use of state resources so a timely response could be achieved to protect life, health and property. At the request of the State of Montana, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) also authorized federal fire suppression aid for Musselshell County.

The Eastern Montana Fire Zones include the following counties: Big Horn, Blaine, Carbon, Carter, Chouteau, Custer, Daniels, Dawson, Fallon, Fergus, Garfield, Golden Valley, Hill, Judith Basin, Liberty, McCone, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Powder River, Prairie, Richland, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sheridan, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Treasure, Valley, Wheatland, Wibaux and Yellowstone. For more information on federal fire suppression aid, visit FEMA's web site: www.fema.gov/nwz99/mtfire726.

Sanders County

Emergency Declaration...

It was July 11, a beautiful Sunday afternoon when Montana Rail Link stirred things up in Sanders County. Specifically, twenty nine cars derailed between the communities of Plains and Paradise. Martha Smith, the local Emergency Manager for Sanders County, assisted with coordination efforts throughout the duration of the accident. With three cars totally submerged and a propane car visible in the river, the county declared an emergency. Although a major disaster was avoided, recovery efforts continued for several days.



The Sanders County train derailment the day after. In addition to the propane car visible in the river, there are three submerged cars, two containing liquid asphalt and one containing corn sweetener.

Provided By:
Bill Thomas
DES District I Rep

Lincoln County Faces Dam Failure Scare...

Earlier this May, a chunk of earth fell off a private dam in Lincoln County. The threat prompted the authorities to force evacuations and issue warnings to individuals below the dam. Fortunately, the dam was safely drained and little more than inconvenience was experienced. Charlie Comer of the Lincoln County Office of Emergency Management helped coordinate the response efforts.



Provided By:
Bill Thomas
DES District I Rep



Photographs Provided By:
Bill Thomas
DES District I Rep

ORDER Y2K PUBLICATIONS NOW

Local coordinators are encouraged to order Y2K-related publications soon. The most popular publications will almost certainly not be available in the quantities needed locally; therefore, local governments can expect to have to budget for and produce the publications locally from "camera ready" copies available from the FEMA publications catalog and from the internet.

In anticipation of limited state supplies and budget, all counties were mailed "camera-ready" copies of the state-produced brochure "Your Family Preparedness Needs". Other popular brochures include "Emergency Preparedness Checklist", "Your Family Disaster Supplies Kit" and "Your Family Disaster Plan". Only one camera-ready copy of each of these

brochures is available from FEMA publications. According to the 1999 FEMA publications catalog, local jurisdictions, states and others who place bulk orders for these publications will receive one camera-ready copy to be used to reproduce the brochures locally.

"Your Family Preparedness Needs" can be downloaded from the state DES website:
(<http://www.state.mt.us/dma/des>)

and the others can be downloaded from the FEMA website:
(<http://www.fema.gov>).

Supplies of Y2K - related brochures might also be available through the Red Cross.

Submitted by:
Bill Thomas
DES District I Rep

www.PrepareNow.org

**Related
Site-**

Whether it's earthquakes or Y2K, preparedness information for special needs and vulnerable populations is usually hard to find. Not anymore! www.PrepareNow.org was created to help fill that void. Besides preparedness for special needs communities, the site is a resource for non-profits looking to get prepared. Please include www.PrepareNow.org on your list of favorites.

Provided by WSSPC
EQ Earthquake Quarterly
Winter 1999



The ABCs of DES

The responsibilities of Emergency Management can be confusing to all of us. Use these ABC guides to help make it easier.



A DES Coordinator

- **Attitude**
- **Balance**
 - between responder groups
 - between four phases
- **Coordinate**
 - build continuity/relationships

A DES Program

- **Authorities**
- **Budget**
- **Commitment**
 - CEOs
 - Coordinator

A Business

- **Awareness**
 - understanding risks
 - connectivity with other events
 - employees trained
- **Backups**
 - insurance
 - money handling, billing
 - advertising
 - employees personal situation
- **Common Sense**

A Citizen or Family

- **Awareness**
 - understanding risks
 - connectivity with other events
- **Backups**
 - finances, insurance
 - food, water, heat
- **Common Sense**

Developed and Submitted By:
Jim Greene, DES Administrator

Web Sites...

National Fire Academy Self-Study

Training

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/tr ertss.htm>

Other FEMA (EMI) training materials available online

<http://www.fema.gov/emi/termng.htm>

Compendium of Federal WMD courses available:

<http://in1.apgea.army.mil/ops/dp/fr>

dp_compendium_download.html

Note: FBI's National Domestic Preparedness Office will take over the maintenance of this compendium.

Planning

Federal Response Plan Terrorism Incident Annex (revised)

<http://www.fema.gov/r-n-r/frp/frpterr.htm>

Rapid Response Information System

<http://www.rris.fema.gov/>

No guides are on the web... yet. SAIC was developing a web-based planning guide for the National Guard.

FBI's National Domestic Preparedness Office released material developed by Michigan State Police. FEMA has a rough draft attachment to SLG 101. Online examples (not models, but examples):

Indianapolis-Marion County, IN

<http://www.indygov.org/ema/chemical-terrorism-countywide-em.htm>

Los Angeles County (Sheriff), CA

http://eob.org/terror/html/the_plan.html

Major Federal Programs/Partners DOJ/FBI National Domestic Preparedness Office

<http://www.fbi.gov/programs/ndpo/default.htm>

DOJ/OJP Office for State and Local Domestic Preparedness Support

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/about.htm>

DOD Nunn-Lugar-Domenici Domestic Preparedness Program

<http://www.sbccom.apgea.army.mil/ops/dp/>

DHHS Office of Emergency Preparedness counterterrorism initiatives

http://ndms.dhhs.gov/CT_Program/ct_program.html

EPA counterterrorism activities

<http://www.epa.gov/swercepp/cntr-ter.html>

DOE Office of Emergency Response (DP-23)

<http://www.dp.doe.gov/emergencyresponse/>

DOE Office of Emergency Management (NN-60)

<http://www.nn.doe.gov/default.htm>

Analysis and Criticism of Federal Programs from the General Accounting Office

*Combating Terrorism: Use of National Guard Response Teams Is Unclear. T-NSIAD-99-184

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/ns99184t.pdf>

*Combating Terrorism: Analysis of Potential Emergency Response Equipment and Sustainment Costs. NSIAD-99-151

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/ns99151.pdf>

*Combating Terrorism: Observations on Growth in Federal Programs. T-NSIAD-99-181

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/ns99181t.pdf>

*Combating Terrorism: Use of National Guard Response Teams Is Unclear. NSIAD-99-110

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/ns99110.pdf>

*Combating Terrorism: Issues to Be Resolved to Improve Counterterrorism Operations. NSIAD-99-135

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/ns99135.pdf>

*Combating Terrorism: Observations on Biological Terrorism and Public Health Initiatives (03/16/99), T-NSIAD-99-112

<http://www.gao.gov/AlndexFY99/abstracts/ns99112t.htm>

*Combating Terrorism: Observations on Federal Spending to Combat Terrorism (03/11/99), T-NSIAD/ GGD-99-107

<http://www.gao.gov/AlndexFY99/abstracts/n299107t.htm>

*Combating Terrorism: FBI's Use of Federal Funds for Counterterrorism-Related Activities (FYs 1995-1998) (11/20/98), GGD-99-7

<http://www.gao.gov/AlndexFY99/abstracts/gg99007.htm>

*Combating Terrorism: Opportunities to Improve Domestic Preparedness Program Focus and Efficiency (11/12/98), NSIAD-99-3

<http://www.gao.gov/AlndexFY99/abstracts/ns99003.htm>

*Combating Terrorism: Observations on the Nunn-Lugar-Domenici Domestic Preparedness Program (10/02/98), T-NSIAD-99-16

(Continued on page 29)

Virus Warning

We receive e-mail messages on a regular basis warning of some new terrible virus that will wipe out all of the files on your hard drive if you open it. Most of these warnings go something like this: "If you receive an email with a file called XXXX. Do not this open the file. This information was announced yesterday morning from IBM; AOL states that this is a very dangerous virus. Pass this warning to everyone in your address book ASAP." Almost all of these messages are hoax warnings.

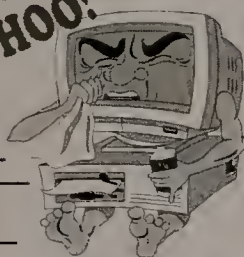
Hoax warnings are typically scare alerts started by a malicious person and passed on by users trying to help their friends by

spreading the warning. In reality the hoax message is a virus in itself with the purpose of trying to overload e-mail systems. Every time you forward a hoax virus warning you are helping the author to accomplish their goal of possibly crashing an e-mail server and wasting your and your friends time.

If you are unsure if a virus warning is a hoax it probably is. To make sure you can check it out at <http://www.datafellows.com/news/hoax/> before you forward it to your friends.

Provided by:
Homer Young
Commo/Computer Specialist

AH -
CHOO!



(Continued from page 28)

<http://www.gao.gov/AIndexFY99/abstracts/ns99016t.htm>

*General Services Administration: Many Building Security Upgrades Made But Problems Have Hindered Program Implementation (06/04/98), T-GGD-98-141

<http://www.gao.gov/AIndexFY98/abstracts/gg98141t.htm>

*Combating Terrorism: Observations on Crosscutting Issues (04/23/98), T-NSIAD-98-164

<http://www.gao.gov/AIndexFY98/abstracts/ns98164t.htm>

*Combating Terrorism: Threat and Risk Assessments Can Help Prioritize and Target Program Investments (04/09/98), NSIAD-98-74

<http://www.gao.gov/AIndexFY98/abstracts/ns98074.htm>

*Combating Terrorism: Spending on Governmentwide Programs Requires Better Management and Coordination (12/01/97), NSIAD-98-39

<http://www.gao.gov/AIndexFY98/abstracts/ns98039.htm>

*Combating Terrorism: Federal Agencies' Efforts to Implement National Policy and Strategy (09/26/97), NSIAD-97-254

<http://www.gao.gov/AIndexFY97/abstracts/ns97254.htm>

Some FEMA HQ Points of Contact for Terrorism Matters Office of National Security Affairs
Tom Antush - x3617 - Terrorism Team Leader
Tom Park - x3322 - Terrorism Grants under EMPG

General Information - Preparedness, Training, and Exercises Directorate Larry Hall - x3520 and Glenn Fiedelholz - x3437

Contributed by:
Fred Naeher
Training Manager

Proposed Federal Legislation Would Create Special IRA Account

GLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT -- Surrounded by members of Glastonbury's Volunteer Fire Station Number 4 and other area volunteer firefighters, Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) recently announced a bill that would create a special tax-deferred savings account for volunteer firefighters where they could invest up to \$500 per year, and deduct the contributions from their income tax. This bi-partisan bill is Larson's first as a member of the United States House of Representatives.

The Volunteer Firefighter Relief Act (H.R. 1870), was co-introduced with the founder of the Congressional Fire Caucus Representative Curt Weldon (R-PA). It is intended to assist with the retention of volunteer firefighters, and provide an incentive for citizens who volunteer their time and risk their lives to protect the community.

Larson stated, "The fire service represents our nation's first response, and in many cases, our first defense against fire and medical emergencies, natural disaster, terrorist attacks, and other areas of urgent need in the community. According to the National Volunteer Firefighter's Council, volunteer fire departments represent 73 percent of all fire departments in the United States, and they are responsible for protecting over 40 percent of America's population. Yet despite a steady increase in emergency service calls, the ranks of volunteer firefighters have declined 5 to 10 percent since 1980. We must reverse this trend."

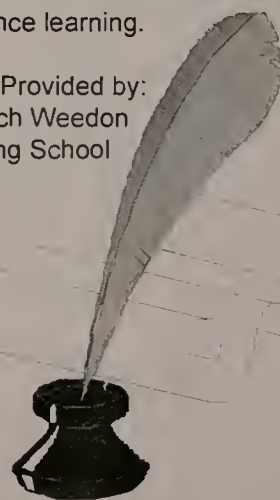
The account proposed in Larson's bill is similar to a traditional IRA in that it would allow volunteer firefighters to open and manage these accounts at the financial institution of their choice, whether it is a local bank or a credit union, or a large financial management firm. Contributions to the account could be made in addition to the maximum contribution limits of any other tax-deferred investment accounts an individual might hold.

"In today's fast paced economy where men and women must work longer hours or multiple jobs to break even, time to volunteer is becoming a thing of the past."

"I have often talked about the importance of addressing the most basic kitchen-table issues that families are concerned about: jobs, education, and financial security. The tax break and extra incentive for retirement provided in this bill will hopefully lighten the financial burden felt by so many working families," said Larson. Larson continued, "In today's fast paced economy where men and women must work longer hours or multiple jobs to break even, time to volunteer is becoming a thing of the past. I believe this account will help provide our volunteer firefighters with additional retirement security and an up-front tax break, while encouraging new volunteers to strengthen the ranks of the men and women who safeguard our community."

This legislation follows another proposal to assist firefighters that Larson had included in H.R. 1550, The Fire Administration Authorization Act of 1999, passed by the House on May 11, 1999. His amendment, which was offered during the Science Committee's consideration of the bill, requires the United States Fire Administration to make an assessment of how the Internet is currently used, and how it could be used, to deliver fire education training courses to local fire departments through distance learning.

Information Provided by:
Butch Weedon
Fire Training School



Solar Activity

...the other Y2K problem.

NOAA issued an advisory stating that we are in the midst of Solar Cycle 23, and scientists expect solar storms and geomagnetic activity to increase as the sun approaches solar maximum, peaking around the year 2000. The effects could disturb GPS navigation, power distribution, radio and cell phone communication systems and others. NOAA's Space Environment Center in Boulder, CO, is responsible for monitoring and issuing warnings and forecasts of potential effects.

Reprinted from the July 1999 Edition of the
International Association of Emergency Managers
Contributed by: Bill Thomas, DES Dist 1 Rep

It is far better to know our
own weaknesses and failings
than to point out those of
others.

- Jawaharlal Nehru

Important!!



EMI Travel Reimbursement ©Policy Changes©

EMI has established a "cap" for airline travel reimbursement. The cap for Montana is \$850 (without a Saturday night stay over).

Non-refundable tickets must be purchased 21 days in advance if you are notified of course acceptance in ample time.

Reimbursements will be made via electronic deposit only, which means you will be required to use your personal bank account.

If you have any questions or doubts about reimbursements, please call Fred Naeher at (406) 841-3968 or EMI directly if you need to make special arrangements. Be sure to get any approvals in writing.

EMI: ☎(800) 238-3358

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